

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 09242 071157Z

23 45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MED-03 A-01 OPR-02 /019 W

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R 071110Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5696

UNCLAS ANKARA 9242

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED, TU

SUBJECT: INCREASED CHARGES FOR OUT-PATIENT MEDICAL TREATMENT AT  
USAF CLINIC

1. DR. C. J. LOUIS, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE USAF CLINIC IN ANKARA, CONFIRMED DECEMBER 6, 1976, THAT A DOD PROPOSED INCREASE IN CHARGES FOR OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT FROM THE PRESENT ONE DOLLAR LEVEL TO TWENTY DOLLARS EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1977, WOULD APPLY TO ROUTINE CONSULTATIONS FOR MINOR MEDICAL COMPLAINTS AS WELL AS FOR PRESCRIPTION REFILLS. IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL INCIDENCE OF MORE SERIOUS MEDICAL CASES, ANKARA, DUE TO ITS HIGHLY POLLUTED ATMOSPHERE, EXPERIENCES A GROSSLY ENLARGED NUMBER OF RESPIRATORY AILMENTS PARTICULARLY DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.

2. PREVIOUSLY, STATE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS HAVE SOUGHT MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS AND OBTAINED RELIEF OF THESE MINOR SYMPTOMS THROUGH PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION AT A COST OF ONE DOLLAR. WHILE CONSULTATIONS ON MORE SERIOUS COMPLAINTS MIGHT WARRANT PAYMENT OF A SOMEWHAT HIGHER FEE, THE BLANKET CHARGE OF TWENTY DOLLARS FOR EVEN PRESCRIPTION REFILLS IS OUT OF ALL PROPORTION.

3. REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO MODIFY THIS ACROSS-THE-BOARD INCREASE, OR TO STAY ITS IMPLEMENTATION UNTIL AN AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED TO PROVIDE ROUTINE MEDICAL SERVICES TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE PERSONNEL AT A REASONABLE CHARGE.  
MACOMBER

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